
A Modest
ATTEMPT
TO PROVE
Dr. H-- not the Author
OF THE
Bouchain Dialogue.

THE GROWTH

A Modest
A T T E M P T
TO PROVE
Dr. H--not the Author
O F T H E
Bouchain Dialogue.

In a LETTER to W. J.
now at the Bath.

WITH A
CATALOGUE of what choice BOOKS
are now in the Press.



L O N D O N,
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A Modest

A T T E M P T

TO PROVE

Dr. H-- not the Author

OF THE

Bouchain Dialogue.

SIR,

London, Octob. 3. 1711.

I Received the Favour of a Letter from you on the second Instant, and was glad to hear the Bath had so fully answered the Benefit you

proposed from it.—— As to the Pamphlet you mention'd, lately publish'd, and entitl'd *Bouchain, &c.* and for which you express such a Concern, I have endeavour'd to find out what Reception it meets with from those, who are generally esteem'd the best Judges of the weekly Impertinence of this busy City, and as such, are appointed to read for so many of our young Gentlemen as are brought up to a Confidence of Politicks, which may as well stand for a Testimony of their Modesty as Judgment.

First, Sir, 'tis not yet agreed who shall have the Honour of this late Performance, which keeps a great many from declaring their Opinions, and renders the Conversation of our most learned Coffee-Houses much more agreeable than we may reasonably hope to find them after this important Discovery.

Some

Some there are of so very a Phlegmatick Disposition, as to take little or no notice about it ; others indeed, who have a greater Interest in this Affair, and who generally meet in some convenient Place, to swear away an Hour or two before Dinner-time, strenuously assert , 'tis the Work of a Man , of large Experience , and sound Understanding. But these Gentlemen now and then meet with a brisk Antagonist, that lays about him without Mercy , swears 'tis damn'd Nonsense, writ by some canting Chaplain, travelling Incendiary, or dragooning Prostitute to an abandon'd Faction. I need not tell you whom the turbulent Spleen of such airy, restless Boutefeus intend by this Character, but hope to make it evident to you , that the Reverend Dr. H. your good Friend, cou'd have no Hand in this notable Dialogue, and so ease you of the Pain you seem to lye under for his Reputation. And this I shall

shall do, by producing first from thence several Passages, and then confronting them with as many from the Doctor's genuine and allow'd Works, by which you will see such an Inconsistency, and Difference in Opinion, as must convince you, the Performance we are now considering is the raw Essay of some young and aukward Libeller.

First, Our Author seems throughout his whole Performance to equal the Action of taking *Bouchain* to the most renown'd Triumph our General can boast of, and boldly affirms, his Grace was never so fatigued in his whole Life, as in this Siege. Now, Sir, I am really afraid of a very expensive Consequence, should I allow this Action to be so very meritorious; I know not but some Demand may follow, especially, since he tells us *Pag. 42.* His Grace has lived to see all the Fruits of his other Victories thrown away, and no other Footstep, except Woodstock (a very

ry Trifle) *remain*. Yet when I have carefully calculated what we have paid for this Exploit, and as carefully cast up the Benefit our Nation is to reap by it, I shall be better able to tell what to say to it.

That his Lordship was so fatigued, was indeed a very melancholy thing, and I am heartily sorry for it, and wish my Sorrow may do his Grace as much good, as his great Fatigue has done me.

But the Sequel of this Action is very pompously display'd in *Pag. 34.* and amounts to this: *Brussels* and *Brabant* were deliver'd, and our next Siege will be either *Aire* or *Cambray*, which in short is, two Towns were deliver'd, which we are not sure were in any great danger, and there will be one the less to take next Year, and therefore this Year, within a very few Pages af-

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ter, he *has a sure hope no one will dare to make a Peace.*

The Reason of this Hope is evident, first, because Peace cannot be made without the delivery of all *Spain* to the *Bourbon* Line ; Secondly, we generously enter'd the War to establish the House of *Austria* upon that Throne ; and lastly, if we don't do it, we have spent our Blood and Fortunes to a fine purpose.

As to the first of these, I am not sure the Design of the Peace is to give up all *Spain* to *France*, if I allow the Author for the sake of making a pretty Figure in Politicks, to dispose the present Ministry to act as he thinks proper, it's more in all probability than will be granted to them when they come to be in earnest ; nor is it to be presumed, that, because our Dialogue-Writer takes the liberty to be somewhat

what free with them, they must be as free with themselves.

The second Reason which respects our Generosity, is not to be disputed, and to this day half the World over the *English* are the most generous Creatures, and so rich that 'tis an unspeakable Pleasure to be ally'd to them.

Lastly, Whatever the Event may prove, I shall be glad if we have taken so large Steps to the Honour of *Great Britain*, you will not be surprized if I go out of the modern fashionable way of Writing; and make no mention of our good Allies the *Dutch*, nor rank me with the disaffected RIDES, if I assure you, I am not without some hope of seeing a Ministry provide an honourable Security for one Nation, and not invade the least Rights of another, and do a Justice to themselves without doing an Injury to their Neighbours. Hence you may

B 2 conjecture

conjecture we shall either make a joint Peace with our Allies, or that they must make a joint War with us, and by that means bear somewhat of that heavy burden which has too long oppressed us.

But I shall now proceed to shew you, that the Author of the *Bouchain-Dialogue* has not yet determin'd what he wou'd have. In *Pag. 41.* after having told us what we have been fighting for, and that we have not yet got it, he dares any Man to sign a Peace ; by this it seems he wou'd still go on, lest *Spain* and the *West-Indies* should be the Duke of *Anjon's*. *Such a Treaty*, he tells us, *wou'd certainly be worse than what several Lords were impeach'd for.* Now I cou'd ask a Question which wou'd a little puzzle our Author for an Answer ; Whether, if he were sure a more effectual Impeachment than that was, or a much later happen'd to prove, cou'd be set on foot against the

the present Ministry for signing such a Peace, which, (out of his abundant knowledge of them,) he imagines they are so impatient for, he wou'd not, as well as he loves the House of *Austria*, and as affectionate as he is to our good Allies the *Dutch*, postpone their Interest for some small time. But

In Pag. 35. we find him, however his Anger at other times may breathe War and Defiance, talking somewhat unfortunately for his purpose. How does his Passion lead him out of the way, when he tells us, *His Grace is divested of all Power both at home and abroad, that Pains is taken to mortifie him, to make him discontented and throw up his Command?* Now let us enquire who it is that uses his Grace in so barbarous a manner. 'Tis her Majesty that sends him abroad, that continues him General of all her Forces, Horse and Foot, her Plenipotentiary at the *Hague*, that pays him for his Service, and

and remits him such large and seasonable Sums as may assist him in giving the decisive Blow to this long War. And to say after this, *That those only, who can divest his Grace of all Power and Authority, have actually done it, and put him as a Cypher, at the Head of a faithful and ready Soldiery*, Pag. 5.

I. 6. What is it but to insinuate such Fears and Jealousies as wou'd infallibly tend to Mutiny and Distraction? Are our last Millions to be rais'd to enable our Army to follow and obey chearfully a General that is dismiss'd, divested of all Authority, without a Power of leading and commanding? This wou'd be such a wanton Extravagancy as is not yet to be paralell'd, and is such a Compliment to the Throne, as only such Writers are capable of making. And the Effect of such Insinuations wou'd induce our Allies to believe it high time to take care of themselves.

But,

But, after this unfair and malicious Representation, what Opinion must we have of his Grace? Can we suppose him content to take the Field for the sake only of that Profit which attends his many Titles of Command, and tamely sit down divested of all Power, but that of making a few Returns to his Dutchess? Such a Temper wou'd indeed deserve to be mortified; but since he is only mortified so far as he is of such a Temper, the Nation will never think he wants a sufficient Power. But let us a little consider what our Libeller wou'd mean by such an infamous Assertion.

As to his Lordship's being divested of all Power at home: If he wou'd persuade us there is a certain great Lady at some of his Grace's Homes, either his home at *Blenheim*, or *Wind-sor*, or *St. Albans*, or *London*, that has used his Lordship so very inhumanly, 'tis

'tis a piece of secret History I can't say any thing to; his Grace best knows with what Moderation that Lady can exercise an usurp'd Power. But perhaps our Author grieves that his Grace has no Civil Employment, and rails at the Ministry for not using their Interest to make him Almoner to Her Majesty, or Master of the Buck-Hounds; but here he is entirely out: And to be told that the present Ministry, in this Instance, is exactly following the Steps of the last; his Grace was by them to that degree neglected, as not to be consulted on Civil Employments, they made and unmade Officers without acquainting him with it; and his Lordship at his Return from *Flanders* wou'd be often surpriz'd to find strange Alterations at Court, his best Friends out and he know nothing of it. However, this Malice seems the more contemptible, as it pretends to come from one personally known to his Lordship, and who has been long an Eye-Witness

ness to his Actions ; by this he would have us take him for Chaplain General to Her Majesty's Forces, as if, of all the ready Pens about his Grace, should there at any time be occasion to revile the Queen and Government, none cou'd so well do it as the Reverend Dr. H. But this Pamphlet does not only reflect upon her Majesty and Government, but in a very rude manner treats the Duke of M. and therefore can hardly be Dr. H's. And so far are we from lending Faith to such Absurdities, as to leave the Doctor in his own good time to answer them : He will tell us, neither his Grace, nor the Dutches, are to that degree stript of their Offices and Honours, as not to be able to support that Splendor in which they have hitherto lived ; but had her Grace only a sufficient Bounty from the Throne, to maintain some of her Daughters in a clean and virtuous way of Life, wou'd any of them think it a Hardship to be so restrain'd ? There

is too another Falshood in this little passionate Writer , which we must leave to the Doctor, and that is, where the poor *Examiner* and his Party are charged with crying up Prince *Eugene*, with no other View than that of lessening the Duke of *Marlborongh*, and for being so *absurd as to pretend what was done by those two Generals in Conjunction , to be the Actions of one only.*

Now that it is certainly so pretended, is, I suppose, proved from an Observation he has made, that one only has been paid for them: That the Emperor has built Prince *Eugene* a Palace, which when finish'd will stand him in *500000l.* that he has given him a Pension of *5000l.* a Year for Life, out of his Post-Office, and bestow'd upon others of his Family to the Value of about *12000l.* a Year, and only conferr'd the empty Title of *Prince of the Empire* on his Grace of *Marlborough*:

And all this because some Party-Fellows, some little obscure *Examiner*, not much unlike the Wretch who audaciously went where his Mistress sent him, and trinketted with *France*, without letting the *Medley* into the *Secret*, made a false Representation of the March to *Bavaria*, the Battle at *Schellenbergh*, and the Wonders at *Rameliess*, and extoll'd Prince *Engene* only with an Intent to lessen the Reputation of the Duke of *Marlborough*. But I hope however hard his Grace was dealt with in those times, he will not be deny'd a just Share in the Glory of these two last Campaigns. Prince *Eugene* neither wants, nor is he so fond of Laurels, as not to make his Grace, if he will but please to request it, a Present of the entire Honour of this Summer's Performance, which shews his Highness a very good Friend to my Lord Duke, and in no great Danger of being brought off from him; so that perhaps if they can but fight on,

and we pay on, *from a good War we may come to a good Peace.*

But that the Peace the World now talks so much of, is to be a separate Peace, may be prov'd from *Mat's* trinketting; and that none of our Allies are to be let into a Knowledge of what we are about, is evident, in that we are reproach'd in all publick Papers for offering to send for *Monsieur du Buys*, and other Ministers, to concert Matters with. —— It's difficult to leave this *Parag.* without making some Observations upon the indecent and Ungentleman-like Reflection, which the *Medly* is pleased to pass upon the *Examiner's* no Birth and Fortune; as if a Man, because he was born to no Fortune, could not marry One, and at any time hide his Birth with a Gown, and talk as big as the best: But for the *Medly* to take this Privilege, only because his Mother was very well known, his Father pretty well guess'd at,

at, and his Grandfather in some Hopes of being discover'd, is an Insolence not easy to be forgot. I could now, for any Pleasure I take in perusing the incoherent Folly of a warm discontented Brain, dismiss my Author, and go over to the Doctor, but that he so often puts me a Question, which if I should not answer I might fear he would think me at a stand. I wou'd fain know, says he, after all the Splutter which has been made, what the present Ministry has done in *Spain*. To which may be answer'd, it has at least been endeavour'd to put Affairs in those Parts in much better order than they happen'd to be, when the last Ministry was so fond of *Flanders*. He that has now the Command of that part of the War will not be content to be a Blank ; our Troops will be more compleat, and better regulated ; and at home you will find a Parliament always ready to call to a strict Account those Persons whose chief business

business it is to remit Payments for that Branch of the War ; and if after all this Care, we cannot bring Matters to bear, we must, as the ingenious Author of *The Management of the War*, has it, *recover that Kingdom by proper Applications to France*, *Pag. 37. Par.*

1. However since the last Ministry was pleased to send their Favourite *French-man* to play away a few Millions in those Parts, I can't think, they will take it ill, if we desire our *Britain* in his turn shou'd take a little Pastime as well as his Predecessor. But if this cannot be done, without sending him to *Almanza*, I must beg leave to demur.

And thus you see, Sir, our courageous Author can gallop thro' thick and thin for the mean Satisfaction of dashing those that come near him, and how little able his Spleen is to maintain a Regularity in Faction. The Thread of his Discourse indeed tends to

to frighten the Ministry from signing a Peace ; but in some Places, as I have fully shewn, he lets fall at once all the Venom he is Master of ; and if he had any Credit in the World, wou'd induce our Allies, by what he has been pleased to mention concerning his Grace, to think their chief Prop too weak to be depended upon. And this is one undeniable Instance, that a Man that knows not himself, ought not to claim the Privilege of judging others. And now to imagine our Reverend Doctor the Producer of such pitiful Malice, is to acknowledge a very little Acquaintance with him ; the Doctor in all his Sermons, Ballads, and Pamphlets does manifestly discover a quite different Temper, and as becomes his Gown never appears but in Defence of abused Innocence. Thus we might have expected from him Reasons, why the last Ministry contracted such large Debts ? Why even her Majesty's Household was unpaid,

for

for so many Years? Why they did not think fit to be too severe in calling for Money out of Receivers Hands? Why the two richest Men in the last Ministry and this Kingdom, did not think it proper to make any Purchase in the Country where they got their immense Wealth? And lastly, why the present Set of Gentlemen in Power have taken quite contrary Steps? This we might have look'd for, and therefore cou'd not be surprized at any such good natur'd Endeavour.

But now to his own Writings, in order to prove him entirely free from what you and I wou'd not willingly see him guilty of: And first to prove him a hearty Zealot for Peace, I will turn to his Sermon preach'd at *Avennes*, Sept. 9. 1711. This Sermon is entitled *God's Charge to Joshua*; and by the whole of its Reasoning wou'd shew you the Author has nothing more at heart than Union and Peace; but that

that I may not, which, the good Doctor knows, is too often the way with some People, make him say what he never dream'd of, I will give you his own Words. His Discourse is upon the Inconstancy of Human Nature; and even in *Pag. 7.* he tells us, *Of all the Vertues Human Nature wou'd aspire to, CONSTANCY seems to be that 'tis least made for: to pursue steadily the same thing for any time together, is a sort of Immortality.* Then he plainly tells us, *how the Israelites wou'd not fight under Moses, because they thought they were to be sacrificed to his Ambition,* with several other Observations, which might prove of use to us upon a very little Reflexion; we may here remark the Doctor does not tell his Audience, that either Fidelity to their Prince or Sincerity to their Friends, had any thing in them that imposed a Hardship upon Human Nature; the Doctor too well knew, how far 'twas proper to touch upon such Subjects,

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and that *Joshua* had too much Modesty to bear the being told, how far he had excelled in those Vertues. The Inconstancy of Human Nature was what he was to manage, and to insinuate by that to his Grace, that he ought not to build too good an Opinion of his Army upon this single Action, that it was not impossible some unaccountable Whim might get into their Heads, and make them, in their Rage, talk somewhat disrespectfully of his Grace, that he was either covetous, or ambitious, or unmindful of Merit, and so pretending to be tired with a Ten Years War, obstinately refuse to follow his Grace, tho' in sight of *Jordan*: From this Consideration of the Inconstancy of Human Nature, his Lordship might be lead to believe there might be some Inconstancy even in the perverse People on this side the Water, that some discontented Spirits amongst us might be of Opinion, that *Jordan* is not so nigh as it

it has been said to be, for some Years past ; that the Country, according to Report, is indeed *a fine Country*, but that the Men may chance to prove *too tall for them*. And hence perhaps his Grace may be lead to think of concluding a good War with *a good Peace*, that is, with some regard to the *main Article of the Grand Alliance*, and not too much slighting the Advice of the Medly's Friend, who has the Honour to be personally known to his Lordship.

Besides his Grace may chance to consider, that most of our Allies are but Men ; the *Portuguese* are certainly Men, the Duke of *Savoy* is certainly a Man, and I am credibly inform'd that even the *Dutch* are Men. Now if, out of the Inconstancy of Human Nature, any of these Men shou'd forget the main Article of the Grand Alliance, and strike up a separate Peace, to whose Ambition shou'd we be then sacrific'd ? And is not this a sufficient

Testimony of the peaceable Disposition of the Doctor. I grant you, *Pag. 23.* he seems to turn upon his Heel, and exhort us to have *Patience and wait God's Leisure*, and tells us, then nothing but *our own Ingratitude* can hinder us of having all *Jordan to our selves*. Now if we consider, as we still must, the difficulty of Constancy in Human Nature, and how large a share Ingratitude has in the Inconstancy of Man, 'tis evident what the Consequence wou'd be at.

Besides, however the Doctor might once have thought like our Dialogue-Writer, 'tis plain he is too good a Politician to agree with him in his present Sentiments. Whatever the *Medley* may think of it, the Doctor is willing to prove to him, if he will but have Patience, that the Emperor is as dead as *Partridge*, that a Hundred and fifty thousand Masses have been said for the Repose of his Soul ; That the *Dauphine*

Dauphine is not quite so much alive, as he is pleas'd to make him in some of his Pamphlets : If he can make this appear, as he does not much despair of, he hopes the *Medly*, and his Friend so personally known to his Grace will think Affairs somewhat alter'd in *Europe* since they first drew their Pens for the whole *Spanish* Monarchy.

But if nothing less will satifie them, the Peace-makers must be content to let them make and sing their Ballads as they think fit. But in the mean time give me leave to say this Cry of *Spain, Spain, all Spain*, brings to my remembrance a Play, where we have a mad *English-man* represented perpetually raving for *Beef, Beef*. Now I fancy these two, when put together wou'd make a pleasant Scene ; and however some Persons might be divided betwixt *Medly* and *Madiman*, I shou'd be first inclin'd to secure the *Englishman* his *Beef*.

Whether

Whether you, Sir, are of the same Opinion I know not, but hope I have made you more at Ease in convincing you that Dr. H. has been abused in having been supposed the Author of so scandalous and profligate a Paper. And now, Sir, assuring you I will take all Opportunities to justify our good Friend, I take my leave of you, and am with all Truth and Sincerity
Yours

W. H.

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Time of the Dissolu-
tion

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then Old; to be proved from
an Observation that less Dirt
and not so many venomous
Creatures

((36))

Creatures are now to be found
in the several Palaces which be-
long to Her M---y as for-
merly.

~~W~~ **F I N I S.**
